

Each of us came to know Alan as a staffer for Lord Greville Janner of Braunstone, United Kingdom. Lord Janner is a leader in European efforts to fight anti-Semitism and racism, and is the founding chairman of the International Council of Jewish Parliamentarians, an organization of which we are all members. Alan played a critical role in helping to bring this organization into existence.

Alan was a kind, dedicated and good person, a young man with enormous potential and great hopes for trying to build a better world. Alan devoted himself to a life in politics and intercommunal dialogue because he understood that it is only by effort and commitment that the wounds of our world can be knit up.

In a life of only 27 years, Alan was a dynamic student leader, an energetic voice for British Jewry and pro-Israel advocacy, a talented leader in the campaign against racism and bigotry, and a candidate for public office. The future he was so brutally denied would surely have been no less full of struggle, achievement and success.

His death is a tragic loss for each of us, the Jewish community in the United Kingdom, his wide circle of friends and, most of all, his family.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Senitt family: his parents, Karen and Jack, and his siblings, James and Emma, who have been so cruelly robbed of their son and brother. Alan leaves behind a legacy of compassion, vitality, good works and a vast potential tragically curtailed. He will be deeply missed.

IN RECOGNITION OF FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH OF PACE'S
NEW SANCTUARY

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 10, 2006

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor for me to rise today to extend my congratulations to First United Methodist Church of Pace on the opening of their new sanctuary.

First United Methodist Church of Pace was founded in 1955 and has since grown to be a vital part of the Santa Rosa County community. The congregation began meeting in a single room of a cement block shop. The church has grown in many ways, most recently with the addition of their new sanctuary. In 1992 a building committee was formed to look into the possibility of expanding First United Methodist Church of Pace's facilities. With the financial and spiritual support of the congregation this vision has now become a reality.

From their humble beginning over 50 years ago, First United Methodist Church of Pace has blossomed into a thriving place of worship.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to offer my heartfelt congratulations to First United Methodist Church of Pace on the opening of their new sanctuary. The dedication of the congregation to their church should be commended, and I am pleased to have First United Methodist Church of Pace in my district.

RECOGNIZING CENTENARIAN
MARY MAYNARD OF CITRUS
COUNTY, FL

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 10, 2006

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mary Maynard of Citrus County, Florida. Mary will soon do something that all of us strive for, but that very few of us will ever accomplish, celebrate her 100th birthday.

Born August 5, 1906 on a farm near Rushville, Indiana, Mary attended Webb High School in Rushville and later graduated from business college.

A farmer's wife until 1948, Mary eventually embarked on a career as a bookkeeper, real estate and mobile home salesperson and working for a prominent builder in Indianapolis selling new homes. In 1960, Mary and her daughter moved to Ft. Lauderdale where she continued her real estate and sales work.

Eventually settling in the Gulf Coast in 1975, Mary and her daughter moved first to Brooksville, and then in 1984 to Citrus County. Following several small strokes over the years, Mary has lived in Arbor Trails Nursing Home in Inverness, Florida for the past 3 years.

Her August 5th birthday celebration will be attended by family and friends from Minnesota, North Carolina, Indiana, Ohio and Florida. In fact, Mary has a long lineage spread across the country, including a son and a daughter, six grandchildren, twelve great grandchildren and ten great great grandchildren!

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me in honoring Mary Maynard for reaching her 100th birthday this coming August. I hope we all have the good fortune to live as long as she has.

HONORING JEFFREY D. THOMAS

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 10, 2006

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jeffrey D. Thomas of Oakland, California for his extraordinary service to California's 9th U.S. Congressional District. Following his work in the areas of politics, finance, and community development, Jeffrey served as the District Director in my Oakland District Office from January 2004 until June 2006. During that time, Jeffrey played an integral role as a leading member of my staff, and his enthusiasm for public service has brought a heightened sense of purpose to my office.

Jeffrey was born in Mississippi in 1963, in the midst of the social and political upheaval that marked life in the American South during the Civil Rights Movement. The son of a minister and a teacher, at an early age Jeffrey developed a keen awareness of the social conditions affecting his family and his community, and of the struggles faced by African Americans in the fight for civil rights. He recounts as a formative moment in his childhood the occasion when he saw one of my personal and

professional mentors, Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm, on television for the first time, a moment that was so significant for him not only because of how inspired he was by her speech, but because of his amazement at the sight of another African American on television, which was a rare occurrence at the time.

Another part of his background that would shape his life in the years ahead was his involvement in the Head Start Program, a comprehensive childcare and development initiative for children in low-income families, funded by federal grants and matching money from local entities in communities across the country. Not only was Jeffrey a Head Start child himself, but his parents both worked with the program for a number of years while he was growing up. Furthermore, this program has remained a part of his life until the present, as he has gone on to represent my office on the local Head Start advisory board in Oakland.

After growing up in Mississippi, Nebraska, and Alabama, Jeffrey moved to Massachusetts, where he attended Brandeis University. Following his graduation, he began working in real estate, but was soon drawn to government and public service, accepting a job in the office of Senator EDWARD KENNEDY of Massachusetts, a position in which he worked on international finance, economic development and constituent services. Following his time there, he continued his work in the financial sector, serving as part of the Mortgage Bankers' Association, William Morris, and as a bank Vice President. After relocating to California to work with a startup software company, Jeffrey became increasingly involved in community development initiatives in the San Francisco Bay Area, serving on entities such as the Alameda Point Collaborative and the boards of local non-profit organizations.

Jeffrey became the District Director in my Oakland District Office in January 2004, and did an excellent job of bringing his experience in Senator KENNEDY's office as well as in the areas of finance, media, project management and staff management to bear on his service to the 9th Congressional District. Under his leadership an exceptional staff has been developed, and numerous initiatives in the areas of crime prevention, economic development, affordable housing, environmental protection, and poverty eradication have been introduced and successfully executed by my office. Of particular note has been his leadership on the Criminal Records Remedies program in my district, through which more than 2,000 non-violent criminal records have been dismissed in only 12 months, allowing thousands of formerly incarcerated individuals the opportunity to obtain employment, housing, and the chance to successfully complete their reentry into society.

Jeffrey's service has been distinguished not only by his exceptional work ethic, but also his commitment to the people of California's 9th U.S. Congressional District. Today, Jeffrey's colleagues, friends, and wife Rachel will come together to celebrate his innumerable contributions to our community. On this very special day, I join all of them in thanking and saluting Jeffrey Thomas for his invaluable service to California's 9th U.S. Congressional District, and to wish him the very best as he begins the next chapter of his "spirit filled" life.